BY THE

Lords Juſtices

AND

COUNCIL,

A

PROCLAMATION.

Winchester, Galtway,

Whereas great Quantities of Copper-pieces, reſembling the likeneſs of the half-pence, currant by Proclamation, have of late been Imported into the Dominions, and deſigned Ports of this Kingdom, and of Scotland, and from other Parts beyond the Seas; and whereas Information is given that there are very great Quantities of ſuch Pieces, far exceeding the whole quantity of half-pence Coined in this Kingdom, lye now ready in ſeveral Ports of Scotland, to be Imported hither: and ſeeing it is juſtly ſuſpected that the ſame have been Coined, and Counterfeited beyond the Seas, and are ſent to drain the Silver now Current, and Remaining here, in Exchange for ſuch Counterfeit and False Money: Which hath alſo in great meaſure already happened in the Northern Parts of this Kingdom, where little other Coin, ſave ſuch Copper Money, is now currant, or to be ſeen. For Prevention therefore of the ſaid Miſchiefs, We have thought fit by this Our Proclamation, to Prohibit the Importation of any ſuch Counterfeit, or False Money; and to Declare that all Perſons that ſhall any way be concerned in, or Aſſiſting to the Importation of the ſame, ſhall be Proceeded againſt, according to the utmoſt Strictneſs, and Severity of Law. And to the End that Deceitful Importers of ſuch Counterfeit Money may be Proceeded againſt, and Puniſhed according to Law, We do hereby Will and Require,

all

13 August 1697

all his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, Mayors, and other Magistrates of Corporations, and also all Customers, Collectors, Surveyors, and other Officers of his Majesty's Revenue from time to time, to Seize and Secure all Quantities of Half-pence, or Pieces made to the likeness of Half-pence, that shall hereafter be Imported into this Kingdom, and the same into his Majesty's Custom-House, or some other place to put and keep, and to give an Immediate account thereof, by Letter to the Clerk of the Council, to the end it may be put in a way of Examination, whether the same be Counterfeit or not: and the same having been Seized to detain till further Order, and also to Commit to Prison the person or persons Importing such base Money, unless they shall find good and sufficient Security to Appear at the next Assizes, to be held for the County, where such Importation shall be, and there to answer what shall be objected against them on his Majesty's behalf, for Importing Counterfeit Pieces to the likeness of the Currant Half-pence of this Kingdom, with intent to Utter the same in deceit of his Majesty and his Leige People.

Given at the Council Chamber in *Dublin*, the Thirteenth Day of *April*, 1697.

Meath, C. Nar, Dublin, Monmouth, Drogheda, [illegible] Rich. Meath, St. George Clogher, P. Savage, Rich. Pyne, Rob. King, Tho. Bendish.

God Save the King.

DUBLIN, Printed by *Andrew Crook*, Printer to the Kings Most Excellent Majesty, on *Corkehill* near *Copper-Alley*. 1697.